

Lava Beds National Monument PO Box 1240 Tulelake, CA 96134

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## Lava Beds National Monument News Release

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Lightening Sparks Fire: Campground and Trail Closures at Lava Beds National Monument

TULELAKE, California- A 50 acre lightening caused fire started about two miles from the campground in Lava Beds National Monument the evening of July 1. The park's engine crew responded and began procedures to halt the fire. Additional resources including five fire engines and four 20 person crews have been requested to assist with the fire.

As a result of the fire's proximity to the campground, housing area, and headquarters, the campground was evacuated and about a dozen parties either chose to leave the monument or stay in the visitor center parking lot. The park's 50 residents were put on alert for potential evacuation, should the fire spread in that direction on Wednesday.

The park superintendent has issued a closure notice for the campground and trails in the immediate area of the fire; however the monument, visitor center, roads, and many of the other trails remain open.

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Lava Beds National Monument, established in 1925, is a land of turmoil, both geologic and historic. Over the last half-million years, volcanic eruptions have created a rugged landscape dotted with diverse volcanic features. Lava tube caves, Native American sites, historic battlefields and a high desert wilderness experience await you!

For more information about visiting Lava Beds National Monument, call 530-667-8113, email <u>labe\_interpretation@nps.gov</u>, or go to <u>www.nps.gov/labe</u>.